shorter crown than in *S. caroliniana:* ovary cylindric, about 5 mm. long at anthesis: styles of the same length. Type specimen, in Herbarium of The New York Botanical Garden from Albertsville, Alabama, *11*, April 22, 1899.

Dr. Wherry reports that when this and *S. caroliniana* are grown side by side at Washington, D. C., in soils of the reactions favored by each respectively (minimalkaline and subacid), *S. caroliniana* begins to bloom in late April, and the new species about two weeks later.

A herbarium specimen of this new species was sent by Dr. S. F. Blake to the British Museum, with the request that it be compared with the type specimen of Walter's *S. caroliniana.* This was done, and the reply stated definitely that the two were clearly different, as Walter's plant has the calyx distinctly (though sparsely) glandular.

Silene Wherryi is represented: In the herbarium of The New York Botanical Garden and of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia by two specimens from Alabama and one from Kentucky: In the United States National Herbarium there are three from Alabama. In the Gray Herbarium there are two inferior ones from Kentucky. Had this species been better represented in the latter herbarium, it would no doubt have been recognized as new by Professor B. L. Robinson when he monographed Silene for the Synoptical Flora.

The New York Botanical Garden.

LAMARCK'S NEW NAMES IN THE FRENCH EDITION OF PALLAS

T. D. A. Cockerell

I have just obtained a copy of the French edition of the Voyages of Pallas, in eight volumes, of which the eighth (published in 1794) consists of descriptions of plants and animals. This volume is edited by Lamarck who adds numerous comments and bibliographical references, as well as short diagnoses in Latin. In a number of cases he differs from the nomenclature of Pallas and sometimes proposes entirely new names. All the new names of animals are carefully cited by Sherborn in Index Animalium, but the plant names have not fared so well

and I find only one of them (*Cheiranthus caspicus*) cited from this source in the Index Kewensis. There are 41 instances in which Lamarck offers plant names differing from those of Pallas. In most cases these are corrections of identification or nomenclature and do not specially affect us. Some, usually cited from other sources, may find their earliest publication here. In a few cases, entirely new specific names are proposed. These are as follows:

1. *Polycnemum corispermoides* for *P. triandrum* of Pallas.
2. *Salsala fragilis* for *S. frutescens* of Pallas. The *S. frutescens* of Pallas is cited in Index Kewensis as a synonym of *S. crassa* Bieb. 1811. Pallas has "*Salsola* an (*frutescens?*) Kali fruticosum spicatum, Buxb. cent. L. p. 8, t. 13." Did he mean to query identity with *S. fruticosa* L., which is a *Suaeda* or *Dondia?* If *S. frutescens* is not intended in that sense, it seems to be a valid new name. The leaves are described as terete, and evidently a *Dondia* is intended. On the whole it appears reasonable to suppose that Pallas did not intend to propose a new name, and in that case the species becomes *Dondia fragilis*.
3. *Gentiana alpestris* for *G. punctatae affinis, alpina, albiflora*, of Pallas. This is, I believe, *G. decumbens* L. f., but the name *alpestris* seems to have escaped all bibliographers.
4. *Saxifraga daurica* for *S. punctata* of Pallas (erroneous determination). This is the plant known today as *S. davurica* Willd. 1799. The section Davuricae Engler and Irmscher must accordingly become Dauricae, and if we follow the generic nomenclature of Small, the species is *Micranthes daurica* (Lamarck).
5. *Cheiranthus caspicus*, which is accounted for in Index Kewensis and said to be *Sterigma tomentosum*. Under Pallas 335, *Dryas geoides*, Lamarck has a discussion in which he separates *Geum potentilloides* (*Dryas geoides* Pallas) from *Geum anemonoides* (*Dryas anemonoides* Pallas). The *Dryas geoides* is *Coluria geoides*, also called *C. potentilloides* by Robert Brown. *Potentilla geoides* Birch (*Drymocallis geoides* Rydberg, the combination only in index to *Potentilla* monograph) is quite another thing, apparently. The combination *Geum anemonoides* dates from Lamarck, 1794, not

Willdenow, 1799, as generally cited. The plant is now called *Sieversia pentapetala* (L.) Greene.

So far as I can see, none of the other changes offered by Lamarck affect us today.

Boulder, Col.

A MIOCENE ORONTIUM (ARACEAE)

T. D. A. Cockerell

Orontium aquaticum L. is the only living member of an Araceous genus occurring in swamps from Massachusetts to Florida, but not in the Western States. It was known to Catesby, and was cited by Linnaeus from Virginia. The Japanese *O. japonicum* of Thunberg is not congeneric. In the Miocene shales of Florissant Colorado, at station 13, we have obtained a spadix which is sufficiently characteristic to be referred to this genus. The apex is missing but the part present is 20 mm. long and 5 wide, the individual flowers having a diameter of about 2.5 mm. The portion of the scape present is about 35 mm. long, with a diameter of 2.3 mm.; there is no evident thickening or flattening below the spadix. The last character is the only tangible one separating the plant from the modern species. This fossil may take the name **Orontium fossile** n. sp.; it adds one more to the numerous examples of genera now existing in the Eastern and southern states, but found in the Rocky Mountain Region only in the fossil state.

Orontium fossile Ckll.